

HARRIET HUBBARD AYER DEAD OF PNEUMONIA AT NEW YORK



Harriet Hubbard Ayer, journalist, author, linguist, traveler, lecturer, business woman and former society leader, is dead. She succumbed to pneumonia in New York, Nov. 25, after an illness of four days. She is survived by two daughters.

Mrs. Hubbard's career was one of the most romantic in contemporary history. The wide range of her activities and her versatile talents brought her into touch with many notable persons, and her successes and misfortunes attracted the attention of the entire country. Commencing life as the pampered child of wealth in Chicago, she became prominent as a social leader, reigned as such for a few brief years, was plunged into poverty by her husband's failure, entered commercial life on her own account and demonstrated the possession of business abilities equaling any woman of her time.

Apart from her commercial success, she was known as the friend and confidante of Adeline Patti, Mme. Modjeska, Clara Louise Kellogg, Fanny Davenport, Mrs. Potter and others prominent in the realms of art and was welcomed into the circles of the literati and the beau monde of London and Paris. She spoke French and Italian fluently, and was finely read. Her taste in decorative art was praised by the aesthetic poet, Oscar Wilde, and Blanche Willis Howard, the novel writer, in her home in Stuttgart, Germany, entertained Mrs. Ayer on several occasions and raised to maturity her youngest daughter during the period of the mother's many troubles.

Litigation, domestic discord and the drug habit so clouded her brilliant mind for a time that she was committed to an asylum. Joseph Choate, now ambassador to Great Britain, was among those who figured in legal battles over Mrs. Ayer's property, and the world-famous Lilly Langtry rented her house for a season when she went to Europe for rest.

WANT TO KEEP CURIOSITY.

Villagers Would Retain Intact Rock Forming Washington's Profile. The residents of Mamaroneck, N. Y., led by Father Meister, a Catholic priest, have formed an association to preserve a wonderful phenomenon, which has become known as Washington rock.

The likeness portraying the head and features of the Father of His Country appeared several years ago on a rock near Oriental point. It was supposed at the time that it was produced by a blast, but because it is close to the site of Washington's headquarters, where he fought the battle of Heathcote hill, and within a stone's throw of the old house where Cooper's character, Harvey Green, in "The Spy," lived, some of the superstitious people of the town are inclined to attach a supernatural origin to it.

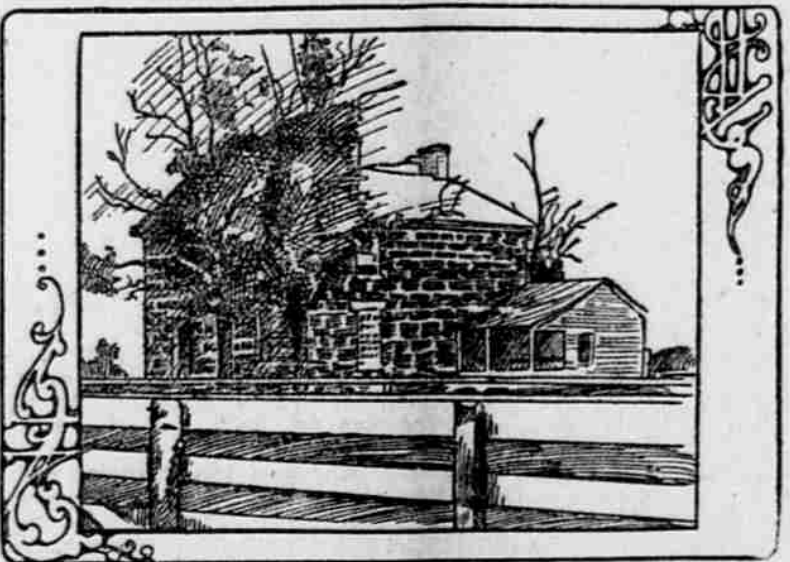
The head and features of Washington are stamped on the rock in massive size and at certain angles the resemblance is complete. The nose is formed by a projection and the mouth and eyes by the dark coloring of the rock.

Public meetings have been held and the people interested have formed the Washington Rock Association. It is proposed to collect a fund and place a bronze tablet upon the rock and dedicate it Oct. 21, 1904, the 120th anniversary of the battle of Heathcote hill.

Persian Statesman in America.

One of the most celebrated Persians of modern times has arrived in San Francisco for a tour of this country. He is Mirza Ali Ashgar Khan, formerly grand vizier of chief minister of his country, who rose from humble station to prominence by sheer force of ability. He is now about 45 years old and is regarded as the most progressive and enlightened man in all the dominions of the shah.

MORMONS BUY JAIL IN WHICH JOSEPH SMITH WAS KILLED



An interesting landmark, the scene of historic tragedy, has been sold to the Mormons. This is the old jail at Carthage, Illinois, in which the Mormon prophet Joseph Smith and his brother Hiram were killed by a mob in June, 1844. It is built of sandstone and is well preserved. It was then the sheriff's residence. It stands on

an acre of ground well improved. The property was sold to the Mormons for \$4,000, \$1,000 under its real value.

A. H. Woodruff of Chicago negotiated the purchase of the building for the Mormons. It is reported that the building will be removed to Salt Lake City, to be set up there as a memorial.

CAPT. CARTER IS RELEASED.

Military Peculator Leaves Fort Leavenworth Penitentiary.

Oberlin M. Carter, ex-captain of engineers, U. S. A., has left the United States penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth. Three years and seven months is the actual time Carter served within the walls of the penitentiary. He was sentenced to five years' imprisonment by a court-martial for alleged frauds in connection with the Savannah harbor improvements. According to the federal statutes a government prisoner is allowed two months off each year for good time, ten months in Carter's case. He was held seven months in confinement at Governor's Island, N. Y., before he reached the penitentiary. By the military code a prisoner's time commences from the day his sentence is approved, which with Carter was Sept. 28, 1899. He was able to keep out of the penitentiary until the following April 27, seven months, through applying for new trials, appeals and the like.

Carter is in excellent health and weighs twenty pounds more than when he entered prison. He is 47 years old, but during his confinement aged rapidly, his hair now being nearly white. He was first assigned to duty as doorkeeper for the tin, shoe, tailor and repair shop. He did this work quickly and spent most of the day brooding over his troubles and as a result became extremely nervous and was on the point of breaking down.

The prison physician recommended outdoor exercise and he was put in charge of the flower garden and lawns, where he pushed a law mower. Later on he was placed in the hospital, where he acted as a nurse and kept the records. He soon became an efficient nurse and for the last year has been teaching the new convict nurses. Carter has never associated with any prisoner aside from Capt. Deming, another army officer, who was released on habeas corpus. But he has been kind to those injured or sick. By living at the hospital he obtained better food than that furnished to prisoners in the construction gangs. He



Capt. Oberlin M. Carter.

has been a model prisoner from the first and has the respect of the prison officials. He has talked to the officers about his suit for the property in escrow, and most of them believe that he will win it.

Another civil indictment is hanging over Carter in connection with the cases against Gaynor and Green, but he does not fear arrest on his release, as his military trial and imprisonment for this same offense bars any further criminal action against him. It is said, however, that he is willing to assist the government against Gaynor and Green, who, he feels, mistreated him.

During the last year Carter has been studying mining engineering, and if he is successful in the trial will spend considerable of his time in Arizona and New Mexico, where he and his uncle, L. D. Carter of Danville, Ill., have extensive mining interests. Carter has been forwarding directions to the employees at the Arizona mine as to the proper manner of developing it. The winning of the Chicago suit, in which \$723,000 is involved, is a matter of supreme importance to Carter, as in case of a favorable decision he will

claim a vindication from first to last. He has held that he was the victim of prejudice on the part of several officers who were members of the court-martial.

QUEER CAUSE OF LAMENESS.

Result of Living and Working in a Hilly Country.

There is a hilly and indefinite locality on the boarderland of Poland and Raymond known as Blackcat. Tradition says that this name was bestowed on the locality because in prehistoric times a wandering hunter from the coast settlements came upon a gigantic black wildcat and had a terrific battle with him somewhere in these hills. In course of time the country became settled, but the recollection of this battle clung to the hills and so we have the name of Blackcat to this day.

A man traveling this section a year or two since observed that all the inhabitants were lame, or seemed to be and even the cows had "a slouch in their gait." This so impressed him that he asked a native whom he met the cause of it. The native looked at the stranger and then at the surrounding hills and then answered, "Well, you see, their folks have to work on or side hill all their life. They begin when they're chil'un and pick berries and keep it up when they grow older and plant later on 'cut hoop-poles on the hills. Yer see one leg has to kinder stretch down ter git er footin' and tother kinder shrinks up ter 'commodate the first 'un, so yer see its nat'ral ter go one-sided."—Portland Advertiser.

Editorial Consolation.

Senator Cullom tells of an amusing incident that occurred in the editorial office of a paper published in Bloomington, Ill.

The senator had dined in for a friendly chat with his friend, the editor, and had hardly seated himself when there appeared a well-known character of the town—a type of individual common to every locality, the man who knows "how the paper ought to be run."

Without noticing the presence of Mr. Cullom the man launched into a complaint that the paper had not printed certain articles he had written for it.

"Why," said he, "I gave 'em to you months ago! What have you done with 'em?"

The editor smiled sadly. "I'm holding them," he replied. "And they serve a very good purpose, too. Now and then I get to thinking that perhaps we are not offering the public as good a paper as we ought to. At such times I look up your articles and see how much worse the sheet might be. So I become real cheerful again! Please don't take them from me!"—Boston Post.

"Rebel Bishop's" Biography.

The family of the late Episcopal Bishop Richard Hooker Wilmer of Alabama has selected Rev. W. C. Whittaker, rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal church, Jackson, Miss., to write his biography. Bishop Wilmer was the only southern bishop of his church elected and consecrated during the civil war. He was long known as the "rebel bishop" because he refused to pray for the president of the United States when Gen. Thomas and his army were occupying Alabama. At the close of the war Bishop Wilmer said that he had no regrets and was making no apologies and the northern church finally agreed to accept him as the bishop of Alabama.

Thought Jefferson a Failure.

Not long ago Joseph Jefferson took part in a benefit in aid of a New York hospital. He opened the entertainment with a short talk, other noted players crowding at the wings to hear his remarks. Just then two highly rouged girls of the song and dance persuasion came down the winding staircase from their dressing-room. One of them came over to the wings, listened a moment and went back to her companion. The latter said: "Who's on now?" "Some old guy doin' a monologue," was the reply, "and, say, he's doin' fierce. Been on ten minutes and ain't had a laugh yet."

PRESIDENT'S NIECE WEDDED TO WEALTHY ITALIAN COUNT



MISS CORNELIA ROOSEVELT SCOVEL.

The marriage of Miss Cornelia Roosevelt Scovel, daughter of Chevalier and Mrs. Edward Scovel, and a niece of President Roosevelt, to Count Ricardo Fabbriotta, was solemnized in St. James' church, Florence, Italy, November 25.

Miss Scovel is a niece of Frederick Scovel of New York and a granddaughter of Mrs. Brooks Whitney. Immediately following the wedding

ceremony an elaborate reception was given at Villa Terrazza, Viale Macchiavelli, the beautiful home of the Scovels, who have resided in Italy for many years.

The marriage makes the second one of the president's nieces who have married titled foreigners, the first being Miss Cornelia Roosevelt, who married Baron Von Zedlitz several years ago at St. Thomas' church, New York.

SHE FONDLED A SNAKE.

Little Child Played Peacefully With a Deadly Copperhead.

Horror-stricken, Mrs. Edward Alpaugh of Washington, N. J., fainted when she went into a neighbor's yard and saw her little daughter, Ruth, 5 years old, feeding a copperhead snake three feet long.

Mrs. Alpaugh took her little daughter with her when she went to make a call on Mrs. Richard Valentine, one of her neighbors. Little Ruth went into the yard to play. After a while she was missed and the two women went to look for her.

Ruth was finally found seated upon the ground in a patch of sunflowers. In her lap was the snake with its body coiled and its head standing up close to the child's face. She was handling the reptile, unconscious of danger. Mrs. Alpaugh screamed shrieked and fainted.

Mrs. Valentine, more composed, ran to the woodhouse and got a hatchet. The snake, which had been quiet before the commotion, started to get away when Mrs. Valentine approached. She pluckily attacked it and chopped off its head.

SAVED BY HIS TROUSERS.

Painter's Fearful Fall Ends Up in Hysterical Laughter.

George Sofelous, a young painter, sat in a swinging chair painting the city water tower at Vineland, N. J., 135 feet above the earth, while a big crowd watched him. Suddenly the crowd sent up a cry of dismay. One of the hooks which held the painter's flimsy seat broke and let him slide down with sickening rapidity.

The spectators turned their heads to shut out the sight, but they were aroused by a loud hysterical laugh from Sofelous. In his descent the seat of his trousers caught in the sharp prongs of an iron railing which ornaments the outside of the tower about half way up, and there he hung. Wriggling about gingerly, the young man managed to pull himself up to the railing and make his way to the ground.

"I certainly thought I was done for that time," said he as the crowd congratulated him on his escape.

After repairing his chair the young painter resumed his work.

RELIC OF EARLY REPUBLIC.

Bronze Button Thought To Be Souvenir of Washington's Election.

Walter Foss, an employee of the state house at Augusta, Maine, has a most interesting relic of olden times. It is a large button of bronze, about the size of a half dollar and perhaps half as thick. In the center of the button are the initials "G. W." and above them, in a scroll, the words "Long Live the President."

The button was found near the Little Kennebec river, in Machias. The stream is so-called because settlers from the Kennebec went there and established their home during the war of the revolution. Among them was Benjamin Foss, grandfather of the owner of the button, who built a log cabin over the spot where the button was found. The button is probably a souvenir of Washington's election as president, and, as far as is known, is the only one in existence.

THE BENEFIT OF WHISTLING.

Writer in Medical Journal Advocates Making of Melody.

When the throes of indigestion and the qualms of dyspepsia are making your life miserable, just purse the lips and whistle a brisk, merry tune, says Medical Talk.

Not a muffled, doleful, half hearted whistle, but a whistle so deep and voluminous that the whole house will be filled with the sound.

Don't be afraid somebody will hear you. Let them hear you. It will do them good. It will enliven and cheer them while it cures you.

Indigestion and dyspepsia always make one feel gloomy and depressed and morbid and gloomy. Everything seems to go wrong and doubtless you won't feel one bit like whistling. But no matter, whistle anyhow.

If possible, go out into the fresh air and do your whistling. If you can't go outdoors, just open the window wide and whistle with all your might. Any old tune will do, so you put life and vigor into it.

Whistle, whistle, whistle. Keep it going. Don't get tired. Go on with all your might. Harder, harder.

The first thing you know the stomach will have righted itself, the liver will be working good and strong, the blood will be bounding through your veins, your brain will be clear and vigorous, and you will feel twenty years younger.

"SECOND" SIGHT AT 94.

Almost Blind, Aged Mrs. Pratt Suddenly Finds She Can Read.

Mrs. Sally E. P. Pratt of Derby, Conn., who for twenty-five years has been scarcely able to read with the strongest glasses, owing to her advanced age, has suddenly found her sight restored in her ninety-fourth year. She had become almost blind of late, being forced to abandon sewing and all reading but the coarsest print. She was preparing to end her years in blindness.

A few days ago she picked up a newspaper to read the large headlines. Continuing down the column, she was surprised to notice that the fine print looked large and blurred. She removed her glasses, and to her joy found she could readily distinguish the type.

After several days' practice she can now read the newspapers and her fine-print Bible with ease, and has discarded her glasses. She also threads needles with the naked eye. Doctors pronounce the case one of the rare instances of what is termed "second sight." They say it occurs only with persons whose age is close to the century mark.

Popular Arkansas Baptist.

Ex-Gov. James F. Eagle of Arkansas was elected president of the Baptist state convention recently held in Little Rock, a position which he has filled for twenty-one successive years. He was chosen by acclamation. The convention was the fifty-fifth annual session of the association and there were over 1,000 persons in attendance. One pleasing incident was a reception tendered to the venerable Dr. R. H. Graves and his wife. Dr. Graves has spent forty-seven years as a missionary in China.